

§ 392.3

8 CFR Ch. I (1–1–02 Edition)

decedent served shall determine whether:

- (i) The decedent served honorably in an active-duty status;
- (ii) The separation from such service was under honorable conditions; and,
- (iii) The decedent died as a result of injury or disease incurred in, or aggravated by active duty service during a qualifying period of military hostilities.

(2) The certification required by section 329A(c)(2) of the Act to prove military service and service-connected death shall be requested by the applicant on Form N-644, Application for Posthumous Citizenship. Form N-644 shall also be used to verify the decedent's place of induction, enlistment or reenlistment.

§ 392.3 Application for posthumous citizenship.

(a) *Persons who may apply.* (1) Only one person who is either the next-of-kin or another representative of the decedent shall be permitted to apply for posthumous citizenship on the decedent's behalf. A person who is a next-of-kin who wishes to apply for posthumous citizenship on behalf of the decedent, shall, if there is a surviving next-of-kin in the line of succession above him or her, be required to obtain authorization to make the application from all surviving next-of-kin in the line of succession above him or her. The authorization shall be in the form of an affidavit stating that the affiant authorizes the requester to apply for posthumous citizenship on behalf of the decedent. The affidavit must include the name and address of the affiant, and the relationship of the affiant to the decedent.

(2) When there is a surviving next-of-kin, an application for posthumous citizenship shall only be accepted from a representative provided authorization has been obtained from all surviving next-of-kin. However, this requirement shall not apply to the executor or administrator of the decedent's estate. In the case of a service organization acting as a representative, authorization must also have been obtained from any appointed representative. A veterans service organization

must submit evidence of recognition by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Once the Service has granted posthumous citizenship to a person, no subsequent applications on his or her behalf shall be approved, nor shall any additional original certificates be issued, except in the case of an application for issuance of a replacement certificate for one lost, mutilated, or destroyed.

(b) *Filing of application.* (1) An application for posthumous citizenship shall be submitted by mail on Form N-644, according to the instructions on the form, to the INS Service Center having jurisdiction over the applicant's state of residence. Persons residing outside the United States must mail their applications to any one of the four Service Centers.

(2) Form N-644 must be accompanied by the appropriate fee specified by and remitted in accordance with the provisions of § 103.7 (a) and (b) of this chapter. The fee may not be waived or refunded. To facilitate the certification process, a legible copy of each of the following documents, if available, should be submitted with Form N-644:

- (i) DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty;
- (ii) DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty/Military Death Certificate; or,
- (iii) Other military or State-issued death certificate.

(c) *Application period for requesting posthumous citizenship.* Form N-644 shall be filed with the appropriate INS Service Center not later than March 5, 1992, or 2 years after the date of the person's death, whichever date is later.

(d) *Denial of application.* When the application is denied, the applicant shall be notified of the decision and the reason(s) for denial. There is no appeal from the denial of an application under this part.

§ 392.4 Issuance of a certificate of citizenship.

(a) *Approval of application.* If the application (Form N-644) is approved, the director of the Service Center shall issue a Certificate of Citizenship, Form N-645, to the applicant, in the name of the decedent.

(b) *Delivery of certificate.* Delivery of the Certificate of Citizenship shall be